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ہو کہ دونوں
نکلتا ہے کہ
نہیں لکھا گیا
وہاں پورے

is very different from the general
means of obtaining the information
of what is going on in the world
of the Association of the Christian
Churches of the East. The Editor of
the "Nur Afshan" has been writing to
the Association since the year 1893, and for
three years past the Association has
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SUPPLEMENT TO THE NUR AFSHAN

Vol. 2.

FRIDAY:—JUNE 17th, 1898.

No. 24

Editorial.

NEWS AND NOTES.

A very remarkable expression regarding the Spirit of God is used three times in the Old Testament. It is said in I Samuel vi: 34, I Chron. xii: 18 and II Chron. xxiv: 20 that "the Spirit of God clothed himself with Gideon and Amasai and Zechariah." The expression seems to mean that for the time being and for the special work to be done these men were simply the instruments by means of which God did his work. It seemed as if the men were doing it, but in reality the Spirit had simply taken them as his tabernacle in which to live and to work.

This is an ideal worth seeking after on the part of the Christian man who would work for God. To let God be all and to have His Spirit clothe himself in us and use us is the secret of successful service.

Sometimes, however, we feel very strongly the need of protection and shielding. The Word of God speaks of this also in a figure just the opposite of the one above mentioned. The Apostle Paul in II Cor xii: 9 speaks of glorying in his own weaknesses that the power of Christ might tabernacle over him.* (See margin R.V.)

Here the man is no longer the tabernacle of the Spirit, but the power of Christ revealed and exercised by the Spirit becomes the tabernacle. A combination in experience of these two aspects of truth will furnish a man for life and work. We need the overshadowing tabernacle of Christ's power, 'do we not aspire to be used as the tabernacle of the indwelling Spirit for purposes of service?'

Contributed.

To
The Editor of Nur Afshan,
Ludhiana.

Sir,
My attention has been drawn to the following remarks in the May number of the "Masih" which are evidently made to ignore the noble work done by the Punjab Indian Christian Association:—

1. One can scarcely help weeping at the wretched condition of the Association;
2. Alas! we cannot bestow on this Association the same commendation as that we give ungrudgingly to the Madras Christian Association;
3. Where are those men of high ambition and firm resolve, who laid the foundation of this Association?
4. The Association has been in existence for three years, but now the second annual meeting has not come off;

5. Who has now prevented the subscribers paying in their subscriptions, and

6. Similar other questions might as well be asked in this connection.

I should like to take up these remarks *ad seriatum*; but I see my purpose would be best served by first giving a brief history of the Association.

2. As most of our older brethren are aware the Association first saw the light in May 1893, or 5 years ago, its object being mainly to provide for our poorer brethren the means of obtaining higher education. The Association has awarded the following scholarships to Christian youths studying in the Lahore and Delhi Mission Colleges, viz.

Number of Scholarships in				
1st. year class	2nd. year class	3rd. year class	4th. year class	Total.
8193-94	1	"	"	1
1894-95	3	2	"	5
1895-96	1	3	2	5
1896-97	1	1	2	4
1897-98	1	"	"	2
1898-99	3	2	"	5
	10	8	4	22

The table below will show to what extent success has been achieved by the young men who received help from the Association—



	No of Passes in F.A. Exam	Do. in B.A. Exam
1894-95—	1	"
1895-96—	3	"
1896-97—	"	"
1897-98—	"	2

The above figures bear an eloquent testimony to the excellent work carried out by the Association. Had it not been for the valuable assistance rendered by the Association, almost all the young men helped, would otherwise have remained without the benefit of higher education and consequently would not have got beyond the lower rungs of the social ladder. Our community has surely gained not lost by having an Association as the present one. The usefulness and importance of the Association have been duly appreciated by some of our Missionary friends, who have for the past three years, made use of our agency in helping several young men to read for the F. A. Examination.

Now as to annual meetings and reports of the Association the following memo may be found interesting—

	Annual Meeting	Annual Report
1893-94—	19-10-93	9-8-94
1894-95—	16-10-94	12-10-95
1895-96 }	-11-95*	
1896-97 }	Feb:97	30-8-97

* Extraordinary meeting

The report for 1897-98 will be out shortly and a general meeting will, I understand, be held in November next if not earlier. Who can now deny facts and figures and say that the Association has lived an unknown existence or has done unsatisfactory work?

The remarks in the "Masihi" coming, as they do, from the pen of the Editor cannot fail to show even to a casual reader that he lacks in sympathy and fellow feeling. One in the position of the Editor can hardly feign ignorance of what the Association has done since the day of its birth. If I mistake not the redoubtable Editor of the "Masihi" is a member of the As-

sociation and has read all the annual reports issued from time to time. The manner in which he has launched his criticism and taken to task the Association clearly betrays a prejudiced mind or a mischievous desire on his part to have a practical joke at the expense of those who are so disinterestedly working for the Association.

Now coming to the lamentation of the Editor of the "Masihi" over the supposed loss of those who founded the Association, I must tell him that none of the prime movers and originators of this benevolent institution have withdrawn yet. They are still taking as much interest as 5 years ago, and they alone are the bulwarks of the Association. The names mentioned in the report from 1896-97 are those of members and not of chief promoters who have gone off the rolls of the Association. Some of our defunct members never paid their subscriptions regularly and heavy arrears are recorded against their names.

As to who has stopped members sending in their subscriptions, I have the personal admission of a member who, when asked in June 1897 to take some money to the Hon'y Treasurer, advised the paying member to withhold his subscription till the annual report was out. Notwithstanding a copy of the report was sent to this member in September 1897, this kind advice has caused to the Association a loss of Rs. 24, in 1897 and the same amount in 1898. The same kind friend has assisted with his counsel another member who has not paid his subscription for two years.

As to why systematic efforts are not made to improve the finances of the Association, I can from personal knowledge say that members are periodically reminded to send in overdue subscriptions and appeals are made for church offertories. Every opportunity is taken advantage of to impress upon our friends the need of ready co-operation. I cannot understand why the Editor of the "Masihi", who is a member of the Association and who so frequently visits Amritsar, where we have no members, has done nothing in this direction. It is incumbent on every member individually to keep and promote the cause of the Association, and not to laugh in his sleeves, as the Editor of the "Masihi" does, while the other members are working. He should like a man put his shoulder to the wheel. It ill becomes him to hold up the Association to ridicule and ignore

its very existence, when he has ample means of obtaining full information of what is being done at the head quarters (Lahore) of the Association. If I remember aright, the Editor of the "Masihi" has been staying in Lahore since the year 1893, and for him to say that the Association is only three years old and that the second annual meeting of the Association has yet come off shows that his memory must be at fault and that all the doings of the Association should be recounted from time to time to save him falling into the sea of forgetfulness.

The Editor of the "Masihi" eulogises the efforts made by the Madras Christian Association; but he overlooks the fact that the Madras Presidency contains 15,00,000 Indian Christians whereas the Punjab can hardly boast to possess 20,000, of whom only 1 per cent are literate and in well-to-do circumstances. The number of our members, though small is proportionately much more than that claimed by the Madras Association, and the work hitherto done by our Association is substantially better than what has been done in Madras or North West Provinces and Oudh.

4th June 1898 } A member of the
P.I.C. Association.

SELF-SUPPORT.

I want to invite your attention to the two words of this subject, namely, 'Self' and 'Support'. Whatever may have been the original idea with which the two words were joined together I shall try to point out what I understand by each of them and hence what they should teach us as parts of a compound word. Taking the word 'Self' first let me tell you that it does not devote anything mean or bad here as it does in the word 'Selfishness'. On the contrary it conveys to us what raises man above the brute creation. 'Why is it' asks a great writer 'that a gorilla with a throat similar to that of man can only howl or whine and that man with a throat like the apes can speak and sing?' The answer is that the gorilla cannot make 'Self' with its feelings and sensations the object of its contemplation and is therefore unable to reproduce them in language. It is the special privilege of man to observe and study self but the brute creation cannot do this. 'Why is it' may again be asked that one person is convicted of sin and another is not? The answer is that the former can see the sinful 'Self' with the light of the Holy Spirit

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while the latter who has not this help does not. This raises the Christian a step higher and justifies me in saying that it is preeminently the privilege of a Christian to recognize, observe, and study self in a sense which the world does not know.

Now to be frank hitherto we have known the Church in India not as 'self' but something outside of us. To most of us it is an institution of the Missionaries, a department of Mission work where some of us can find employment or a 'receipt of custom' where we all have to pay heavy taxes! What I want to emphasize is that we should know and contemplate it as 'self' or something belonging to ourselves. Let its interest be our interest, its joy, our joy and its sorrow our sorrow. 'India' for the Indians! cries the politically awakened Indians with a sinister motive and shall not the children of Light cry at the top of their voice 'the Indian Church for the Indian Christians' with the best of motives?

The student of History stands aghast at the wonderful tenacity shown by the Jews. Repeatedly led into captivity, often crushed by the most powerful engines that man can employ against his brother. Scattered to-day over the surface of the world like the autumnal leaves, it still preserves its nationality intact and refuses to mingle with and be lost in the babel of nations. The secret of this phenomenon appears to be the consciousness that the Jew is the heritage of the Lord. With this consciousness dates the history of this peculiar people and this consciousness alone has humanly speaking kept it from being extinct as a nation. Can we then hope to begin our history in India as the people of God and fulfil our destiny as the harboring of a new era if we disregard this divinely appointed law and do not realize our oneness with the Church?

Mr. Meyer somewhere mentions the following suggestive story. To a widow dwelling, who has long mourned over a lost son, comes a sun-burnt sailor. He asks he may rent her lodging and enters giving no clue to his identity. Her lost son is with her but she knows him not. He is veiled. Presently some gesture or remark reveals him and the mother recognizes him and casts her aged arm round him in ecstasy of tender love. The Church has long remained among us as a stranger for whom we look, spread the table and go on errands but let us now recognize in it as 'bone of our bones and flesh of our flesh' and cast around it the tender arms of love.

Next take the word 'Support' and consider first the substance which sup-

ports 'Self' and then the way in which 'self' lives upon this substance. No one will deny that the word, both written and living, is the only substance which supports this 'Self.' Jesus, the Living Word of God, is the bread of eternal life. He is the true vine on which alone can the branch grow and bear fruit. But the written word of God called the sincere milk is not to be under-valued. Here we meet the Living Word as in Eden of old and grow in His presence. As the material body of a friend becomes the means of revealing to us his 'inner man' so through the written word the voice of the Living Word reaches our ears.

Consider again that in all the affairs of life a division of labour is absolutely necessary for a systematic discharge of our duties. One sows and reaps the corn, another grinds it, and a third cooks it and we all eat and are nourished by it. But every able-bodied person must pay for all the processes before he can put the bread into his mouth with a clear conscience. A violation of this law will degenerate him into a parasite with mutilated organs and feeble structure. During the week days the minister 'goes forth into the fields,' gets up early to the 'Vine' and on Sundays he puts before us 'all manner of pleasant fruits, new and old.' Now the question on which the whole subject appears to hang at present is shall we sit at the table week by week and refuse to pay for what we get? It is very convenient for us to eat at the expense of others but calculate the moral loss which we cannot but sustain by this unnatural dependence. The scripture plainly lays down that the person who does not work must not eat. Is it proper that we should go against this law and act as if it were no sin to refuse to pay our bills? I do not mean that we can pay the price of the word of God for it is priceless. We pay the grinder or baker for putting the grain of corn in a form which our stomach can assimilate and it is our duty to pay the Minister for the time, labour and thought that he spends in bringing the Word of God in an inviting and digestible form before us. It is in this respect that the scripture says, that the labourer is worthy of his hire.

In connection with this part of the subject it may be noted that this division of labour is not an arbitrary one but into every one of us is given grace according to the measure of the gift of Christ. One great lesson of the Pentateuch is that no 'unsanctified' hand should attempt to touch or carry the ark of the covenant and that each person in the Lord's host has his or her own sphere of labour chalked out by

the infinite wisdom of God. The Mission Compound is at present our land of Canaan and service under the Missionary, the grapes of Eschol or the promised overflow of milk and honey. Service under a Missionary is no doubt the highest work that a Christian can aspire to but every one is neither qualified by nature nor called by grace for this work. India is our country and the mere fact of our joining the Christian Church does not transfer our rights and privileges to Europe or America. Like the Hindus and Mohammedans we should have as fair a share of the public offices, industrial concerns and mercantile enterprises in the country as is possible under our somewhat altered conditions. Inattention to this point has greatly hindered the material progress of the community and restricted its influence to a very small corner. Blessed is the nation that realizes its possibilities, and seizes its opportunities for it shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water that bringeth forth its fruit in its season &c.

Native Christian.

Telegrams.

London, June 7.

Reuter, telegraphing from Hongkong, says the insurgents are closing in round Manila, and fighting now takes place frequently; one of the Spanish regiments in the Philippines has mutinied and shot its officers. The British residents remain in Manila, but other foreigners have taken refuge aboard the ships in the harbour. The telegram further states that Admiral Dewey has refused to allow the insurgents to storm Manila, until the American troops, now on their way, arrive there.

The native Spanish regiment in the Philippines, which mutinied and shot its officers, afterwards joined the rebels, who have been fighting furiously for several days past, and are driving in the Spaniards upon Manila.

London, June 7.

Mr. Chamberlain, replying to a question in the Commons, said that the Indian Currency Committee has been specially requested to hear fully the representative of the Ceylon planting interest.

London, June 7.

Serious riots occurred in Belfast, where a mob of Orangemen attacked a Nationalist procession and overpowered the police, chasing the latter to barracks and wounding fifty, several of them grievously. The military were called out and cleared the streets.

Rioting has been renewed in Belfast today, and the constabulary were compelled to charge the mob with batons, many rioters being injured.

Calcutta, June 7.

Mr. Pearson to-day fined a man, named Keens, for publishing obscene literature, Rs. 500, or two months' imprisonment. The alternative fine was paid.

London, June 8.

Admiral Sampson telegraphs that he bombarded the forts at Santiago for three hours on Monday morning, and completely silenced them. The American reports declare that the forts are a mass of ruins. The Spanish accounts of this engagement admit that the cruiser "Reina Mercedes" was struck by a shell, and the commander of the vessel and six men killed, and seventeen wounded, also that three Army officers were killed and eighteen soldiers wounded during the bombardment, but the damage to the batteries is unimportant. The Spaniards maintain that an attempted landing at Aguadores by the American forces was repulsed, but the accounts received in America speak of a successful landing at Baitiquiri where the invading forces strongly entrenched themselves.

The Governor of the Philippines has sent a despairing telegram to the Madrid Government, in which he says that nearly the whole archipelago is in open revolt, and unless the Home Government sends help it is impossible to cope with his enemies on land and sea.

It is reported that the Governor has taken refuge in the citadel in Manila, where he will make his last stand.

London, June 8.

In the House of Commons last night, Lord George Hamilton, in moving a resolution for the Indian loan in England of ten millions sterling, said the money was required to pay off old loans, to provide for railway expansion in India, and to furnish the Secretary of State with a reserve for emergencies. In the course of his speech Lord George Hamilton made a general survey of Indian finances, and said that the statement was intended to take place when the usual Indian Budget statement was presented to the House. The revenue of India, he said, was in a healthy condition, owing to the steady rise in exchange, and that the great bulk of the present loan would be utilised in providing capital for reproductive works. His Lordship warmly eulogised the services of Lord Elgin who, he said, had steered India through a most serious crisis, and would bequeath to his successor a sound system of finance and who had collected material for agrarian legislation, which would greatly improve the condition of the tillers and occupiers of the soil. The frontier policy, Lord George Hamilton added, was one of concentration and conciliation.

London, June 9.

Twenty-seven thousand American troops, of whom 21,000 are Infantry, the balance comprising a battalion of engineers, five squadrons of cavalry and six batteries of artillery with sixteen siege guns, all under command of General Shafter, have sailed from Tampa for Key West, from whence they will be conveyed by a strong fleet to an agreed point.

London, June 9.

In the House of Commons to-day, Mr. Curzon, replying to a question, said that according to Count Mouravieff's despatch, Russia maintains the sovereign rights of China over Port Arthur and Talienwan, and respects the treaties between China and other countries, implying the scrupulous maintenance of the status quo.

Foreign war-ships and merchant-ships will continue to enjoy access to all ports in China.

Calcutta, June 9.

Four seizures and one death from plague were recorded on Wednesday.

Bombay, June 10.

There were 12 attacks, including 9 old cases

which have been under enquiry, and 3 deaths reported from plague yesterday.

Karachi, June 9.

Returns for the 9th show cases 8 and deaths 12. Totals to date, cases 2,810; deaths 2,204. The increased humidity of the atmosphere now prevailing, is apparently beneficial in its results on the plague.

London, June 10.

The United States House of Representatives has adopted the report of the Conference on the War Revenue Bill.

London, June 10.

Mr. Balfour in the House of Commons to-day said that the Government would gladly seize a favourable opportunity to promote the cessation of hostilities between Spain and America, but unhappily there was no present prospect of such action being acceptable to both parties.

The censorship exercised by Americans has stopped everything regarding the expedition which left Tampa this week, and the present whereabouts of the expedition is unknown.

It is believed that the recent despatches exaggerated the dimensions of the expedition for the purpose of misleading the Spaniards.

Meanwhile, it is known that American war-ships have seized and occupy the outer harbour of Guantanamo, eastward of Santiago de Cuba.

London, June 10.

China has leased to Great Britain two hundred square miles around Hongkong including the territory on the mainland behind Kowloon to a line joining Mirs Bay and Deep Bay, besides the waters of these bays and the island of Lantau. The colony is thus made absolutely secure as a naval base.

The Pekin correspondent of the *Times* telegraphs that Japan has demanded from China, exclusive Japanese settlements in Foochow, Woohung, Shashi, Friming Joehow and Chinguantas, also the payment of £15,000 and damages for the destruction of Japanese property in the recent Shashi riots.

London, June 10.

It has been proved that the attack upon Russian troops in Andijan was plotted by the Muhammadan priesthood, who were excited by the Turkish victories in Greece.

London, June 10.

The Prince of Wales has been gazetted Colonel of the Gordon Highlanders.

Bombay, June 11.

There were 15 attacks, including 10 old cases which had been under observation, and 3 deaths from plague reported yesterday in Bombay.

Karachi, June 11.

Returns for the 10th show cases 14, deaths 11; totals to date, cases 2,824, deaths 2,215. Up to last Friday 4,283 people were inoculated in Karachi.

London, June 11.

An American troopship has landed 600 marines at Caimamera, several war ships first shelling and driving out the Spaniards from the earthworks.

It is reported in New York that the Philippine insurgents to-day opened a determined attack upon Manila, and have already captured the new town of Manila. Admiral Dewey's squadron is not participating in the attack, but is watching events to prevent a massacre.

Three American men-of-war remain in the harbour of Guantanamo to protect the marines who have been landed. Admiral Sampson has thus secured the port as a base for his supplies.

It is believed that owing to the rumour of Spanish war-ships being about all the American transports have returned to Tampa. The men are said to have been overcrowded on the transports and suffered terribly from heat. Many horses died on board. The latest reports state that the transports re-sailed from Tampa on Saturday.

London, June 11.

The agreement on the Niger question has been finally concluded, and now only awaits the signature of Britain and France.

London, June 11.

A meeting has been held in support of the fund to make provision for Native Indian soldiers disabled in the British service. Lord Roberts presiding. In the course of the meeting the Duke of Cambridge, Lord George Hamilton, and the Marquis of Lansdowne paid a tribute of praise to the native troops.

It is reported that Manila has surrendered.

The American marines, who landed last week at Guantanamo, were attacked by the Spanish regulars on Saturday night. The United States cruiser "Marblehead" at once landed reinforcements. The Spaniards fought from cover, and were only discernible by the flashes from their firearms in the direction of which the marines poured in volleys. An American launch ascended the bay and enfiladed the enemy. Shortly after midnight the Spaniards changed the position held by the marines but were met with repeated volleys, and finally broke and retreated. The losses in the engagement are as yet unknown.

London, June 13.

The report of the surrender of Manila proves to be untrue.

It is officially announced at Washington that an expedition has left Key West for Cuba.

London, June 13.

The death is announced of Mr. Matthew Fowler, the Liberal Member for Durham city.

Bombay, June 14.

There were only two attacks and four deaths reported from plague yesterday.

Karachi, June 13.

The returns for the 13th show cases 9, deaths 8; totals to date, cases 2,833, deaths 2,245.

SUPPLEMENT.

Contributed articles on important themes and items of news will be thankfully received. All communications should be addressed to the Editor, Nur Afshan, Ludhiana.

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